

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 APR 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **HIRAO, TEIZO et al**

Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**

Serial No.: **09/926,540**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **November 16, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7746

**FOR: SEALING BUSH FOR TUBE INSERTED THROUGH PARTITION AND
MULTI-FLASH EVAPORATOR INCORPORATING SAME**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 17, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

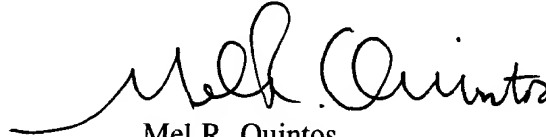
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



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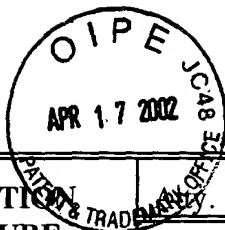
MRQ/lrj
Atty. Docket No. **010984**
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, references (7) and International Search Report.



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Docket No. 010984	Serial No. 09/926,540
	Applicant(s): HIRAO, TEIZO et al	
	Filing Date: November 16, 2001	Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AC 51-51066	12/8/76	Japan	No
_____	AD EP 0 139 337	05/02/85	European	Yes
_____	AE 58-27838	06/16/83	Japan	No
_____	AF 62-186903	08/15/87	Japan	No
_____	AG			

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AH	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 105071/1981 (Laid-open No. 01587/1983) (Hitachi Zosen Corporation), 24 January, 1983 (24.01.83).
_____	AI	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 111736/1971 (Laid-open No. 65902/1973) (Hitachi, Ltd.) 21 August, 1973 (21.08.73).
_____	AJ	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 15847/1972 (Laid-open No. 94011/1973).

Examiner	Date Considered
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